Table-9

Detail of the Food-for-Seed Project Proposed for 2000

S No	IP	Province	Expected Procurement of seed (MT)	Food grain (wheat)requirement(MT)
01	IRC	Khost	Rice 35.00 Maize 150.00 Pulses 25.00 Wheat 250.00 Total 460.00	105.00 187.50 87.50 250.00 + 62.5* 692.50
02	ISRA	Kunar	Maize 100.00 Wheat 150.00 Total 250.00	125.00 150.00 + 37.50* 312.50
		Kabul & Logar	Rice 30.00 Maize 100.00 Pulses 15.00 Wheat 250.00 Total 395.00	90.00 125.00 52.50 250.00 + 62.50* 580.00
03	MCI	Dehrawod	Rice 30.00 Wheat 50.00 Total 80.00	90.00 50.00 +12.50* 152.50
		Maywand	Maize 120.00 Pulses 30.00 Wheat 150.00 Barley 15.00 Total 315.00	150.00 105.00 150.00 + 37.50* 18.75 461.25
		Bost	Maize 80.00 Pulses 20.00 Wheat 100.00 Barley 10.00 Total 210.00	100.00 70.00 100.00 + 12.50* 12.50 307.50
04	Solidaritie's	Bamyan	Wheat 150.00 Total 150.00	150.00 + 37.50* 187.50
05	VARA	Nimroz (Dilaram)	Maize 150.00 Pulses 75.00 Wheat 350.00 Barley 13.00 Total 588.00	187.50 262.50 350.00 + 87.50 16.25 903.75
07	ISE	Pulekhumri	Rice 50.00 Wheat 150.00 Total 200.00	150.00 150.00 + 37.50* 337.50

08	ISE	Herat	Rice 5.00 Pulses 10.00 Wheat 300.00 Total 315.00	15.00 35.00 300.00 + 75.00 425.00
09	ISE	Kabul	Wheat 200.00 Total 200.00	200.00 + 50.00* 250.00
10	ISE	Kandhar	Maize 5.00 Pulses 5.00 Wheat 150.00 Total 160.00	6.25 17.50 150.00 + 37.50* 211.25
11	NADA	Jalalabad	Wheat 150.00 Total 150.00	150.00 + 37.50* 187.50
12	COMMUNITY	Bamyan & Yakolwang	Wheat 250.00 Total 250.00	250.00 + 62.50 312.50
13	COMMUNITY	Mazar	Pulses 5.00 Wheat 148.00 Total 153.00	17.50 148.00 + 37.00 * 202.50
14	COMMUNITY	Frah	Pulses 10.00 Wheat 50.00 Total 60.00	35.00 50.00 + 12.50* 97.50
15	COMMUNITY	Khuduz	Rice 25.00 Maize 5.00 Wheat 50.00 Total 80.00	75.00 6.25 50.00 + 12.00 143.75
16	COMMUNITY	Takhar	Rice 10.00 Wheat 50.00 Total 60.00	30.00 50.00 + 12.50 92.50
17	COMMUNITY	Badghais	Pulses 5.00 Wheat 50.00 Total 55.00	17.50 50.00 + 12.50 * 80.00
18	COMMUNITY	Ghor	Wheat 50.00 Total 50.00	62.50 50.00 + 12.50 *
		Total	4,181.00	6,000.00

- In case of wheat the exchange ratio shall be **1 : 1** and no deviation to this will be accepted. However, contract seed producer could be compensated in kind for adopting recommended technology and transportation charges, which entails extra cost of production. The maximum quantity could be paid is indicated separately. In case of other crops this cost has been included on weighted average basis while deciding exchange ratio.

7. **Seed in the Service of Farming and Non Farming Communities of Afghanistan.**

The present Seed Component of FAO-Crops by promoting a scientific seed provision system in a war devastated country is also helping in the technology

transfer in the farmer community. The contract seed growers are educated on the usefulness of producing seeds of improved varieties and scientific way to produce seeds of international quality in Afghanistan itself. It automatically highlights the yield advantage of adopting high yielding varieties (HYV) over the old and degenerated varieties. Finally, it offers opportunities to get almost equal income if not more if some day the poppy growers decide to stop cultivation of the poppy.

The above mentioned activities are on a very limited scale being inherent of the seed programme and in absence of a separate budgetary support does not constitute a part of the regular programme. If necessary budgetary support is provided it could encompass more farmers with more effective results. During 1999 more than 5,543 contract seed producers were registered for seed production across the country.

Table-10

Number of Contract Seed Producers Who Participated in the Seed Production Programme in 1999.

Crop	No of Seed Producers
Wheat	3,517
Barley	26
Rice	415
Maize	1,120
Pulses	465
Total	5,543

The yield improvement in the important crops especially in the wheat has reduced the food insecurity and food price in certain pockets of the country. It has directly benefited the non-farming population to some extent. Besides, use of the sale proceeds of seeds for financing income generation schemes in PEACE districts in collaboration with UN-OPS has directly helped the non-farming community.

8. Seed Testing

Seed testing is an integral part of the quality control programme and knowledge of the various quality aspects of seed greatly contributes to agricultural

development. It will continue to play a major role in future enhancement of crop production in Afghanistan whether government provides necessary support or not. For establishing scientific seed testing facility three things are needed namely suitable building, equipment and technicians. FAO- Crops utilising sale proceeds has constructed a building designed on International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) recommendations at Herat. The building has sufficient space to install equipment needed to test more than 15,000 samples every year for all necessary tests. The building is ready for occupation but two other essential inputs are missing that is equipment and technicians. Unless necessary budgetary support in kind and cash received the building could not be put to use for it was intended i.e., seed testing.

At present seed samples are being tested mainly for germination using sand method which does not require any equipment except few trays and sand. A small seed testing laboratory at Herat with some basic equipment is also used for analysis of samples for conducting purity and moisture analysis. For more scientific testing samples are sent to FSCA, Pakistan especially if difference of opinion exist between a seed producer and IP.

9. CSAs Signed During the Period under Report.

During the period under report the following CSAs were signed with several IPs to produce, procure, process and distribute contracted quantity of seed. As per the contractual obligation IPs receive US $ 55/ MT for each MT seed produced and sold. Besides, formal agreements the informal agreements are entered into with communities/ Shura, Dept. of Agriculture and ISE to produce large quantity of seeds even more than under the formal arrangements. In such cases the IPs receive no financial assistance except technical advice, certification material and in some cases food wheat under Food-for-seed scheme.

Table-11

Detail of the CSAs

Summer 1999

IP	Project Number	Value of the Contract US$
IRC	SP/S/KHOST/IRC/99	5,830
ISRA	SP/S/KKL/ISRA/99	15,125
MCI	SP/S/HQUZ/MCI/99	11,605
VARA	SP/S/NIMROOZ/VARA/99	4,125
TOTAL	SUMMER	38,684

Winter 1999 -2000

IP	Project Number	Value of the Contract US$
IRC	SP/W/KHOST/IRC/00	11,000
ISRA	SP/W/KABUL-LOGAR/ISRA/00	13,750
	SP/W/KUNAR/ISRA/00	8,250
MCI	SP/WQ/KHU/MCI/00	16,500
VARA	SP/W/BD/VARA/00	16,500
Solidarites	SP/W/BJB/Solidarites/00	8,250
Total	WHEAT	74,250

The validity of the CSAs signed for production of winter seed is up to December 2000 while the NTE of the present project is up to 30-06-00. But Mother Nature does no permit to complete the wheat seed production and its further planting by the NTE of the programme. However, IPs have been reminded the of following two clauses of the CSA while signing the contract:

If due to natural calamity or any other valid reason(s) the IP could not carry out the obligation of production and distribution of required quantity of seed, the financial assistance shall be reduced accordingly (but not to exceed 50% of the agreed service charge). This shall be done with consultation between the IP and the FAO.

Any matter arising out of the execution or interpretation of this Agreement shall be subject to consultations between IP and the FAO.

Therefore, for any reason if FAO-Crops could not support the national programme beyond the June 2000 the CSAs would be changed on the basis of situation exist at that time and under the light of the above clauses.

10 Construction of New Storage Space for Seed and Fertilizer

Under the Emergency Seed programme (1988-89 to 1994-95) the two staging areas at Peshawar and Quetta were set up. More than 31,542 MT seed and 21,632 MT fertilizer were kept at staging areas for short term to medium term storage period in the warehouses provided by WFP before they were moved into Afghanistan. It costed approximately US$ two million besides, risks involved in storing faraway from the utilization areas. With the launching of the National Seed Programme and PEACE Initiative Programme the entire quantity of seed was

produced within the country which has now grown in to a complex and high volume operation and require exceptional managerial skill and safe storage of seed and fertilizer. Due to destruction and looting during two decades long internal conflicts it was difficult to find suitable storage space to store large quantities. Luckily. Govt. of Norway donated 10 Rulbbhalls in 1995 to store seed and fertilizers. Besides, Rubbhalls a 1,500 MT storage facility has been created by constructing three godowns at the Seed Complex in Herat. The cost of the construction was met from the sale proceeds. One godown was constructed in 1998 and two are likely to be completed very shortly.

By creating its own storage space the project could store the seed and fertilizer near the doorsteps of the farmers and save a lot on rent. The detail of the storage space available at various locations is given below:

Table-12

Detail of the Storage Space Available

S No.	Location	No. of Rubbhalls Erected	Capacity (MT)
1	Herat	2	800
2	Frah	1	500
3	Balabulak	1	500
4	Kandhar	3	1100
5	Jalalabad	1	500
6	Kabul	1	300

Besides Rubbhalls, FAO-Crops constructed three godowns at Herat and one at Mazar using sale proceeds. The godown at Mazar was looted and destroyed during the recent internal war and, thus does not exist any more.

The seed programme in north and central regions has been started from scratch and needs all facilities including storage space. Therefore, at least 10 more Rubbhalls are needed to meet immediate requirement of both the regions.

11. **Miscellaneous**

(I) New Donations Received

A. A valuable contribution of US $ 335,000 from the Govt. of Switzerland (SDC) to produce and distribute 175 MT seed along with matching quantity of DAP and Urea fertilizers in food deficit areas has been received. The Cost Sharing Agreement between UNDP and SDC has been signed on 13-12-99. The project will become operative from 01-01-2000 and ends on 31-12-2000. Necessary arrangements are being made to produce required quantity of wheat seed and procurement of fertilizers and other inputs. NPPPs (Seed) have been advised to identify most deserving seven village cluster communities to be provided 25 MT seed and fertilizer as envisaged in the prodoc. The final decision will be made in the SRG meeting to be held in April/May 2000.

B. Verbal assurance has been received from WFP for food assistance of more than 10,000 MT (Estimated US $ 3.10 Million) during the next two years i.e., 6,000 MT in 2000 and 4,000 MT in 2001. The proposal for 2000 has already been submitted to WFP and is under consideration.

(II) Seed Review Group Meeting

FAO- Crops established a Seed Review Group (SRG) in 1995 to advise the Programme on all matters relating to seed sector and to co-ordinate the functioning of the agencies involved in seed activities in the country.

Donors, IPs, other concerned UN agencies and staff of the FAO-Crops are represented in the SRG. The participation is open to all concerned and usually by invitation.

The meeting held during the period under report was 8th in the series of meetings. Two meetings are convened every year i.e., at the start of the summer and winter crop seasons. It helps to review the progress of previous season and planning for the ensuing season. The 8th Meeting, which was held on 21-09-99, reviewed the progress of Summer Crop season 1999 and approved the seed production plan of 1999-2000 of the winter crops.

Besides, regular participants from EU, UNDP, WFP, UN-OPS, IPs and staff of FAO-Crops, Mr. Fintan Scanlan, CPO (AFG), FAORAP, Bangkok also attended the meeting and helped to decide several policy related issues. The Proceedings were issued on 23-09-99 to large number of agencies including RCOs.

(III) Technical Backstopping Mission

Dr. Michael Larinde, Agriculture Officer (Seed), AGPS, FAO, Rome visited the project from 21-06-99 to 01-07-99 and discussed the technical issues with staff and IPs. The visit was very fruitful for the programme. Frequent visits will certainly help in solving the technical problems encountered from time to time.

(IV) Technical Team

Implementation of a successful programme without skilled and committed staff is impossible in a situation prevalent in Afghanistan. Fortunately, the seed programme has a motivated team of national and international experts. The composition of the present team is as follows:

S. No.	Name	Designation
1	Mr. Hans C. Brink	Programme Manager
2	Mr. A R Sinwari	NPPP (Seed)
3	Mr. Mir Shaifuddin	DO
4.	Mr. Sayeed Mahboob	DO
5.	Mr. Ziauddin Paiman	DO
6.	Mr. NS Tunwar	Senior Technical Advisor (Seed)

(V) Implementing Partners

In most of the countries the farmers are serviced by a well-developed seed industry in the public or private sector or both. Unfortunately, in Afghanistan both sectors are non existent. Thus, this role is being performed mainly by FAO-crops through its IPs and by some NGOs also out side FAO-Crops programme but on a very limited scale. At present following IPs are co-operating under formal or informal contractual obligation:

Table-13
Detail of the IPs

S. No.	Implementing Partner (IP)	Status
1	International Rescue Committee(IRC)	International NGO
2	Islamic Relief Agency(ISRA)	Do
3	Mercy Corp International(MCI)	Do
4	Solidaritie's	Do
5	Voluntary Agency for Rehabilitation of Afghanistan(VARA)	National NGO
6	Improved Seed Enterprise(ISE) , Pul-i-Khumri	Parastatal
7	Improved Seed Enterprise(ISE), Herat	Do
8	Improved Seed Enterprise(ISE), Kabul	Do
9	Improved Seed Enterprise(ISE), Kandahar	Do
10	Nangarhar Agriculture Development Authority(NADA), Jalalabad	Department of Agriculture
11	Bamyan & Yakawlang	Community
12	Mazar	Do
13	Farah	Do
14	Kundoz	Do
15	Takhar	Do
16	Badghais	Do
17	Ghor	Do
18	Bakwa	Shura
19	Khak-e-Safid	Do
20	Farah Center	Do
21	Balabuluk	Do
22	Pusht-e-Rud	Do
23	Punjwai	Do
24	Arghandab	Do
25	Dand	Do
26	Shega	Do

(VI) Secondment

STA (Seed) was seconded to TCP/TAJ/8921 (E) to work as Mission Leader of a 4-person mission for the following period to prepare a National Seed Plan for Tajikistan:

08-08-99 to 01-09-99
28-09-99 to 21-10-99

For this US$ 20,789.63 were reimbursed to the AFG/96/004 as secondment cost.

(VII) Leave

STA (Seed) availed the following Annual Leave during the period under report:

26-07-99 to-30-07-99
08-11-99 to 12-11-99

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Six Monthly Report- Seed Component Activities
01 July 1999 – 31 December 1999

Project = **Food Security Through Sustainable Crop Production (AFG/96/004) (FAO-Crops)**

Broad Objective- Peace through Productivity

1. Introduction

Agricultural Sector.

Afghanistan has a predominantly agrarian economy and about 85 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture. Up to 1978, the bulk of the exports were agricultural products and this sector contributed about 56 percent to the country's Gross National Product (GNP). 20 years of war, rapid urbanization and diversion of substantial acreage of good and fertile land for poppy cultivation have aggravated the food problems in the country. Agriculture infrastructure, productive capacity, and food security have been significantly reduced during this period. The peace and prosperity in Afghanistan could be introduced only through productivity and higher productivity could be achieved only by making available quality seed of improved varieties. Therefore, it will not be an exaggeration to say that seed alone contains in itself the blue print for the agrarian prosperity of Afghanistan, but at the same time at present a weak link in the chain of agricultural inputs.

Seed is an Important Component of the Crops Programme.

Seed is an important component of the Crops project and it has been rightly given due priority under PEACE and National Porgrammes and under emergency and development phases. This is because amongst the inputs used by the farmers seed is the cheapest and it forms only a small part of his cultivation expenses. Yet, to farmers all other initiatives would of little value unless they get seeds that are true to type genetically and possess desired qualities. The expression of other agricultural inputs namely irrigation, fertilizer, pesticides/fungicides, credit, draught power etc. is only possible through seed and it is measured in production per unit area. Thus, it was no coincidence that the project document has recognized the importance of the seed security.

Emergencies Are Disruptive Of Development.

It has been proved beyond doubt that at least in agricultural sector the Emergencies are disruptive of development. Better "development" can reduce the need for the emergency relief. For example creation and maintenance of the

emergency seed stock through in-country seed production could meet demand of any unforeseen emergency at a very minimal cost and in a short period of time.

Seed And Food Security Are Inseparable Under Present Situation In Afghanistan.

It is an established fact that in the rehabilitation process the seed security precedes food security and in a normal situation they run parallel to each other. In fact, seed security and food security comes one after another in the sequence of an agricultural rehabilitation programme. The food insecurity and internal strife emerged together on Afghanistan soil in 1978-79. Since then they are going like fellow travelers. The food security, which showed sign of recovery till 1998, has declined in 1999 due to various reasons such as natural calamities, increasing encroachment into productive area by poppy, strict border control and internal strife especially in the north and central regions of the country.

In a well-established administration seed supply is normally provided by the formal seed supply system whereby certified seed (Descript Seed) is regularly available through commercial channels or on subsidized price through government. The other major source is farmers own saved seed under informal system whereby the farmer saves part of the harvest or exchanges seed with other farmers. Unfortunately, in Afghanistan both systems have been severely disrupted. Recently, due to ecological disaster and internal war in a major part of the country the seed supply system was badly affected and a large number of farmers had no access to seed. The seed sector and in fact whole agriculture sector did not command any priority in the scheme of the Afghan authorities. Therefore, all burden came upon FAO-Crops which has very limited financial resources to meet the large demand. Despite all security and financial problems, FAO-Crops managed to produce and distribute sizable quantity of seed in Bamyan and Mazar with the help of WFP and UNDP/UNOCHA. In other parts of the country and in PEACE Initiative districts normal activities continued with the support of Shura and other implementing partners during the period under report. The detail of the same is given below:

2. Procurement and Distribution of Seed in Peace Initiative Districts

The distribution has already been completed. The detail with respect to number of beneficiaries, number of villages, etc., is yet to be collected from some districts. The information available as of today is tabulated as follows:

Table-1

Distribution of Wheat Seed in PEACE Initiative District of Western Afghanistan (Frah)

S/No.	Name of the District	QTY of QD Seed Distributed	QTY of Foundation Seed Distributed	QTY of Urea and DAP fertilizer Distributed	Total QTY of QDS and FS distributed	No. of Villages	No. of Farmers
1.	Bakwa	66.65	4.00	70.60	70.65	38	324
2.	Shindand	50.90	5.00	55.90	55.90	110	575
3.	Khak Safed	49.80	2.10	51.90	51.90	21	436
4.	Farah center	65.50	3.70	69.20	69.20	NA	564
5.	Balabuluk	57.15	3.25	60.40	60.40	60	566
6.	Pushtrud	58.20	2.80	61.00	61.00	42	464
	TOTAL	348.2	20.85	369.00	369.05	271	2929

The perusal of the Table would show that Shura themselves procured more than 400 MT unprocessed wheat seed and after processing, treating and testing sold to more than 2,929 farmers approximately in the 300 villages at the following sale price:

Input	Sale Price
100 kg Wheat Seed + 50 kg DAP+ 50 kg Urea	Afs. 1,450,000 (US$ 32.22)x

x In Khake-Sfed the Shura fixed the price Afs.1, 430,000 for the above package.

The Shura under direct supervision of UN-OPS and FAO-Crops has collected the sale proceeds. The further use of the funds generated will be decided by the Shura as per the guidelines of ARRP schemes including *Betulmal scheme.*

Table-2

Distribution of Wheat Seed in PEACE Initiative District of Southern Afghanistan (Kandhar)

S/No.	Name of the District	QTY of QD Seed Distributed	QTY of Foundation Seed Distributed	QTY of Urea and DAP fertilizer Distributed	Total QTY of QDS and FS distributed	No. of Villages	No. of Farmers
1.	Pajwai	68.00	1.00	69.00	69.00	Being Collected	Being Collect-ed
2.	Arghandab	47.20	1.00	48.30	48.20	DO	Do
3.	Dand	15.00	1.00	16.00	16.00	Do	DO
4.	Shega	6.60	0.50	7.10	7.10	Do	Do
5.	Daman	00	0.10	0.10	0.10	Do	Do
	TOTAL	136.80	3.60	140.50	140.40		

Except Daman other Shuras took interest in procurement and distribution of the seed and sold to the farmers at the following sale price:

Input	Sale Price
100 kg Wheat Seed + 50 kg DAP+ 50 kg Urea	Afs. 1,450,000 (US$ 32.22)

The planting is in progress. In Frah, though large quantity of seed was procured, but the demand was more and a large number of farmers could not get the seed. Community was advised to share the seed among neighbors from the previous harvest and also to increase the target of production and procurement for the next year.

3. Production and Distribution of the Seed under the National Programme.

A. Winter Crop Seeds

Table-3
Production and Distribution of Winter Crop Seeds by various IPs under National Programme.

Agency (IP)	Wheat (MT)	Barley (MT)
MCI	331	0.5
IRC	250	00
ISRA	305	00
VARA	405	
Comm. Farah	50	00
NADA, Jalalabad	150	00
ISE, Pulekhumri	30	00
ISE, Herat	250	00
ISE, Kabul	150	00
ISE, Kandahar	150	00
Comm., Kunduz	13	2
Comm. Mazar+	31	1
Soladirety, Bamyan & Jalrez	155	00
Comm., Yakawolang	160	00
Comm. Kesham	13	00
PEACE, Kandhar	137	00
PEACE, Frah	348	00
BS & FS	468	5
TOTAL	3396	8.5

The seed was procured from more than 3,543 seed producers. It was processed, tested and treated before distribution to more than 34,000 farmers all over the country. More than 114 MT and 23.5 MT wheat and barley seed respectively were rejected due to poor quality.

B. Distribution and Procurement of Summer Crop Seeds

The following quantity of maize, rice and pulses seeds were distributed in the previous season:

Table-4

Production and Distribution of Summer Crop Seeds by various IPs under National Programme.

Maize = 741 MT

Rice* = 292 MT

Pulses = 281 MT

TOTAL= 1,314 MT

More than 2,000 seed producers participated in the programme.

The procurement of summer crop seeds produced in previous season is in progress and likely to be completed by April 2000. More than 1,200 MT is likely to be procured. More than 35 MT seed of an improved variety of rice (Afghan-98) has already been procured in north and will be distributed in the ensuing season. It will help at least 700 farmers to plant more than 3,500 Jarib area under high yielding variety of rice in the north.

C. Farmers to Farmers Exchange

This is a traditional method wherein farmers obtain their requirements from their neighbours either on cash payments or on exchange basis. This is because most farmers search continuously for better technologies. In their quest they exchange seed. This is the cheaper and faster way to spread the seed but in this way, seeds travel only over short distance. This is the reason that area around seed production units has been saturated with improved varieties. It has created food security at micro level. This could be one of the factors of the current locationwise grain price difference. During 1999 approximately following quantity of seed was distributed under farmers to farmers scheme promoted by the FAO-Crops.

Table-5

Distribution of Seed under Farmers to Farmers Exchange Programme

Crop	Qty. (MT)
Wheat	3,000
Barley	50
Rice	500
Maize	1,200
Pulses	450
Total	5,200

The above estimates are based on the information provided by the contract seed producers. However, this scheme has enormous potential under Afghan condition but need budgetary support for effective and wider application.

4. **Distribution of the Seed in the Potential Areas of Refugees Return**.

Seed constitutes one of the primary needs for the returnee farmers. UNHCR and some donors have realized this and several sub projects have been implemented in the past in collaboration with UNHCR to make available seeds of adapted and improved varieties along with fertilizer for re-establishing displaced farmers. FAO- Crops has given full consideration on quality of seed and its adaptability. Usually, seed aid mainly under emergency assistance is provided without much attention on adaptability or quality. In short term it might ease the situation but in long term it may create more problems. The in-country seed production prgramme implemented by FAO-crops to supply seed to the returnees is insulated against such risk. Greater Azro Initiative Programme (GAIP) is a good example of this scientific approach. The following quantity of seed and fertilizer has been distributed in the GAIP districts:

Table-6
Distribution Seed and Fertiliser in the districts of Greater Azro Initiative Programme

Districts	Seed (MT)	Fertiliser (MT)			No. Of Recipient Families
		DAP	Urea	Total	
Azra	10	5	5	10	462
Tezin	12	6	6	12	735
Hisarak	10	10	5	5	638
Khak-I-Jabar	3	3	1.5	1.5	336
Gardez	24.62	24.62	24.62	49.2	235
Sayed Karam	20.323	20.54	20.54	40.88	211
Total	**79.943**	**62.54**	**62.54**	**125.08**	**2617**

5. **Emergency Seed Stock**.

Since last five years FAO-Crops is maintaining an emergency seed stock of wheat seed of different varieties suitable for planting in different season at different locations. The stock is maintained to meet unforeseen situation caused by natural or man made disasters. The stock is maintained at Herat through local production. Bringing seed from outside to meet emergency is a costly and risky business. Production and maintenance of buffer stock locally is less costly and less risky. The detail of the seed stock maintained for year 2000 is as follows:

Table-7

Vareitywise Quantity of Seed Maintained under Emergency Scheme for use in Year 2000.

S/No	Variety	QTY m.t
1.	Pamir-94	47.4
2.	PBW-154	49
3.	HD-2285	16.4
4.	Gul-96	8.75
5.	Balkh-97	3.75
6.	Balkh-66 (HD-2232)	3.2
7.	Rana-96	1.75
8.	Inqilab-91	2.3
9.	Roshan	1.5
10.	Daima-97	2
11.	HUW-234	0.45
12.	Takhar-97	0.35
13.	Ghazna-97	0.25
TOTAL		**137.1**

The maintenance of emergency seed stock needs funds and at present there are no funds available to maintain and support this scheme beyond 31-12-99. Therefore, further continuation of the scheme will depend only on the availability of the funds.

6. **Food-for-Seed**

This scheme is being jointly implemented by FAO-Crops and WFP since 1994. The scheme is unique in nature and was first time conceived in Afghanistan. It envisages food security through seed security without causing food shortage at micro level and ensuring the flow of benefits at macro level through secondary beneficiaries. Earlier sub projects were prepared seasonwise but since 1998 the scheme is approved for the whole year. This has ensured easy administration and advance information about the commitments of WFP and FAO-Crops relating to seed. It has further improved the seed development in the country and as a result the IPs were able to use more than 99% food grain allotted for the procurement of the seed despite poor security and logistical support in certain areas. The actual status could be seen in the following table:

Table-8

DETAILS OF THE FOOD WHEAT UTILIZATION uNDER PROJECT NO AFG/CD/99035/FFS/FAO

Agency	Revised food wheat allotted(MT)	Total seed procured(MT)	Total food wheat received(MT)	Balance(MT)
Community Mazar	59.013	39.474	54.699	4.314
ISE, Pulekhumri	93.238	57.914	93.238	00.00
Kundoz	33.999	22.747	33.999	00.00
Takhar	62.50	00.00	00	62.50
ISRA	1315.00	669.50	1315.00	00.00
SCA	37.50	40.00	37.50	00.00
Solidaritie's	195.00	200 .00	195.00	00.00
ISE, Kabul	187.50	150.00	187.50	00.00
NADA	187.50	150.00	187.50	00.00
Yakawlang	200.00	160.00	200.00	00.00
Bamyan	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
ISE, Herat	312.50	250.00	312.5	00.00
Community Farah	62.50	50.00	62.50	00.00
VARA	793.75	530.00	793.75	00.00
MCI	960.00	590.00	960.00	00.00
ISE, Kandahar	187.50	150.00	187.50	00.00
IRC	312.50	250.00	312.50	00.00
FAO/OPS, Kesam	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
TOTAL	5000.00	2480.00	4933.186	66.814

Detail of the Food-for-Seed Project Proposed for 2000

In consultation with WFP, Afghanistan and IPs, FAO-Crops has proposed a project proposal for the year 2000. The proposal envisages procurement of more than 4,181 MT quality seed of adapted and improved varieties in exchange with 6,000 MT food wheat in the year 2,000. The detail could be seen in the Table-9.

SIX MONTHLY REPORT
Seed Component Activities
(July 1999 - December 1999)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Food Security through Sustainable Crop Production
(AFG/96/004)



N. S. Tunwar
STA (Seed)
Islamabad
December 1999

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List of acronyms and abbreviations

BS	Breeder Seed
CSA	Contractual Service Agreement
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FS	Foundation Seed
GNP	Gross National Product
IP	Implementing Partner
IRC	International Rescue Committee
ISE	Improved Seed Enterprise
ISRA	Islamic Relief Agency
ISTA	International Seed Trade Agreement
MCI	Mercy Corps International
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
PEACE :	Poverty Eradication and Community Empowerment UNDP's Country programme
QDS	Quality Declared Seed
RAPR :	FAO's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific – Regional Operations Branch
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
SRG	Seed Review Group
UNDCP :	United Nations Drug Control Programme
UNDP :	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR :	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNOCHA :	UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNOPS :	UN Office for Project Services
VARA	Voluntary Association for Rehabilitation of Afghanistan